

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 7 are pending, with Claims 1, 6, and 7 being independent.

The Official Action states that the certified copies of the priority documents are not present in the file. Applicant respectfully notes that the PCT Branch has placed these papers in the official file as of March 31, 2009; accordingly, acknowledgment of receipt thereof is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1 through 7 again were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over previously-cited US 2002/0083431 A1 (Machida). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 6, and 7 recite, *inter alia*, determining whether or not the searched-for ***printing device*** has a network address within the designated range information, and distributing the program for managing the determined printing device.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that Machida fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed claimed feature as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 1, 6, and 7.

Applicant respectfully submits that Machida's IP address [0073] relied upon in the Official Action is that of the client unit (PC), *not* the peripheral device (printer), so Machida is silent as to determining whether the searched-for ***printing device*** has a network address within the designated range information.

Applicant further respectfully submits that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited document that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at such a feature.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional

aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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